



Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests  
& Thunder Basin National Grassland

## Forest Service News Release

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### **Another round of prescribed burning planned to improve vegetation near Esterbrook in Laramie Range**

*Up to 450 acres are targeted for treatment with prescribed fire in south Converse County, Wyo.*

**(DOUGLAS, Wyo.) September 30, 2021** – As part of a multi-year effort, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service fire crews are planning up to 450 total acres of prescribed burning in the northern portion of the Laramie Range, Medicine Bow National Forest this fall. Named Wildcat, this year's treatments will tie together work from previous years and will be maintenance to protect previously completed fuels mitigation.

The Wildcat burns will mimic historically natural fire disturbances, benefit a variety of vegetative species and their age class diversity, as well as wildlife habitat and domestic stock pasture. Fire danger will also be reduced by removing potentially hazardous fuel loading.

These will be broadcast burns, which is prescribed burning activity where fire is applied to most, or an entire area within well-defined boundaries. Proposed burn units are surrounded by well-established Forest Service roads and hand-crew dug line. There will be three burn units, both north and south of Harris Park Road (Forest Road 633), located approximately one mile east of the Forest Service Work Center in the community of Esterbrook. All units are located on National Forest System lands managed by the Douglas Ranger District.

Forest Service staff will meet with the Esterbrook community on Mon., Oct. 4 to share plans for the Wildcat burns and to answer any public questions.

Early October is the targeted range of possible dates for the prescribed fires, however the exact date of ignitions will be dependent on suitable weather and fuel moisture conditions. Burning will not take place unless daily ventilation category (smoke dispersal) forecasts are "good" to "excellent" and other weather-related conditions are favorable. Smoke will likely be visible from the Glendo area and Interstate 25.

The burn units are composed of ponderosa pine, shrubs, grass, and some aspen.

For more project information, contact North Zone Fire Management Officer Shay Rogge at (307) 358-7119 or Josh McGee, Engine Captain, at (307) 358-7121.

Additional information about prescribed fire can be found on our [website](#). Notices, links to news articles, and additional resources are available on social media: [@FS\\_MBRTB](#) on Twitter or [@FSMBRTB](#) on Facebook.

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